



September 25, 2007

## A Message to MDOC Employees from Director Caruso:

Dear Colleagues:

Today, Governor Granholm convened a meeting of department directors to discuss contingency plans for a partial shutdown of state government in the event there is no agreement on a comprehensive solution to the state's budget crisis. Without a comprehensive solution that prevents massive cuts to public safety, health care, and education, the Governor cannot support a continuation budget.

The Michigan Constitution prohibits the payment of any money from the state treasury except as authorized by a lawful appropriation that would be included in a budget. Authority to expend money and operate state government programs ends Sunday, September 30, unless there is an approved budget in place on Monday, October 1. If an approved budget is not in place, government will shut down, and only those services deemed essential to protect imminent threats to public health, safety, and welfare may be maintained on a voluntary or emergency basis.

I and the other state department directors are keenly aware of the uncertainty this budget crisis has created for you who are on the front lines of state government. I want you to know that the Governor is doing everything she can to avert a shutdown of any government service. Budget negotiations are ongoing, and we will keep you informed of the situation throughout the week. Look for a special edition **F.Y.I.** each day as information becomes available, and please be sure to share this information with your co-workers who do not have email or internet access.

On behalf of the administration, I thank you for your support and understanding as we continue to seek a solution that will finally put our fiscal house in order and allow Michigan to move forward.

Sincerely,

**Patricia L. Caruso**  
Director, Michigan Department of Corrections